

REMARKS

Claims 1-66 have been examined. No claims have been amended. Claims 67-98 have been canceled, without prejudice, for filing in a continuation application.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102

Claims 67-73, 75, 76, 81-88, 90, 91 and 97-98 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(c) as being anticipated by Kaokutsu. These claims have been canceled, without prejudice, in order to expedite prosecution, thereby rendering the rejection moot as to these claims.

Claim Rejection – 35 USC §103

Claims 74 and 89 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaokutsu in view of Repak. In order to expedite prosecution, claims 74 and 89 have canceled, without prejudice. As such, this rejection is rendered moot.

Claims 77-80 and 92-95 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaokutsu in view of Templeton. Claims 77-80 and 92-95 have been canceled, without prejudice, in order to expedite prosecution of the application. Hence, this rejection is rendered moot.

Claim 96 has been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaokutsu in view of Lowery. In order to expedite prosecution, claim 96 has been canceled, without prejudice, thereby rendering this rejection moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 1-66. As previously indicated, in order to expedite prosecution, the remaining claims have been canceled, without prejudice, for filing in a continuation application.

Appl. No. 10/576590
Amdt. dated July 8, 2009
Reply to Office Action of May 13, 2009

PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

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